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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/724,170	12/01/2003	Maureen Caudill	000479.00114	9385
22907 7590 05/14/2008 BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD. 1100 13th STREET, N.W. SUITE 1200 WASHINGTON, DC 20005-4051				
EXAMINER				
MYINT, DENNIS Y				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2162				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
05/14/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/724,170

Applicant(s)

CAUDILL ET AL.

Examiner

DENNIS MYINT

Art Unit

2162

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 February 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 81-99 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 81-99 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/CD/CD)
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is responsive to Applicant's Appeal Brief, filed on February 2, 2008.
2. This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters.

Specification

3. The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o). Correction of the following is required: Claim 81 in line 1 recites "one or more computer readable media", claim 87 in line 1 recites "one or more computer readable media", and claim 93 in line 1 recites "one or more computer readable media". However, the specification of the instant application fails to provide proper antecedent basis for the limitation "one or more computer readable media".

Duplicate Claims Objections

4. Claim 87 is objected under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claim 81. Claim 88 is objected under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claim 82. Claim 89 is objected under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claim 83. Claim 90 is objected under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claim 84. Claim 91 is objected under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claim 85. Claim 92 is objected under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claim

86. When two claims in an application are duplicates or else are so close in content that they both cover the same thing, despite a slight difference in wording, it is proper after allowing one claim to object to the other as being a substantial duplicate of the allowed claim. See MPEP § 706.03(k).

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 81-99 are allowable if rewritten to overcome the objections made above under 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and 37 CFR 1.75. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter.

As per claim 81, Maarek et al. (hereinafter "Maarek") ("Ephemeral Document Clustering for Web Applications", IBM Research Report, RJ 10186, April 2000) in view of Call (hereinafter "Call")(U.S. Patent Application Publication Number 2002/0143521) is directed to one or more computer readable media storing computer executable instructions to perform a method for vectorizing a set of document structures.

However, Maarek in vie of Call does not explicitly teach the limitations: "document predicate structures", "identifying one predicate and argument in said document predicate structures" and "a predicate key that is an integer representation"

As per claim 87, Maarek in vie of Call is directed to one or more computer readable media storing computer executable instructions to perform a method for vectorizing a set of document structures.

However, Maarek in view of Call does not explicitly teach the limitations: "document predicate structures", "identifying one predicate and argument in said document predicate structures" and "a predicate key that is an integer representation".

As per claim 93, Maarek in view of Call is directed to one or more computer readable media storing computer executable instructions to perform a method for constructing vector representations for each of a set of document.

However, Maarek in view of Call does not explicitly teach the limitations: "predicate structures", "identifying the predicate and the at least one argument in each of M predicate structures" and "a predicate key that is an integer representation".

The dependent claims, being definite, further limiting, and fully enabled by the section are also allowable.

6. Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 25 USPQ 74, 453 O.G. 213, (Comm'r Pat. 1935).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dennis Myint whose telephone number is (571) 272-5629. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:30PM Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene can be reached on (571) 272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-5629.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Dennis Myint
Examiner
AU-2162

/John Breene/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2162